

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

BRITTANY WALKER,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) No. 4:15 CV 781 JMB
CAROLYN W. COLVIN,)
Acting Commissioner of Social Security,)
Defendant.)

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff's Petition for Award of Attorney Fees

Pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (“EAJA”), 28 U.S.C. § 2412 (ECF No. 18).

Defendant has filed a Response to Plaintiff's Motion. (ECF No. 21)

In EAJA actions, the district court has the authority to award reasonable and necessary expenses associated with adjudicating a claim for social security benefits. Kelly v. Bowen, 862 F.2d 1333, 1335 (8th Cir. 1988). The Court finds that Plaintiff is entitled to EAJA fees in the amount of \$2,072.31, payable to the Plaintiff as the prevailing party. Astrue v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. 586, 130 S. Ct. 2521, 2527 (2010) (holding that EAJA fees are payable to the prevailing party and may be subject to offset to satisfy any pre-existing debt owed to the United States).

On August 12, 2015, the undersigned granted the Commissioner's Motion to Reverse and Remand (ECF No. 15), and reversed and remanded the instant cause for further proceedings. Plaintiff now seeks attorney's fees in the amount of \$2,072.31, which represents 10.9 hours of attorney work at \$190.12 per hour. Defendant filed a response to Plaintiff's motion stating no objection to an award of EAJA fees in the amount of \$2,072.31. The undersigned notes any award of attorney's fees is subject to offset to satisfy any pre-existing debt she owes to the

United States. Id. Plaintiff executed a fee agreement assigning any fee under the EAJA to her attorney. See Doc. No. 20, Assignment of EAJA Fees. Accordingly, for good cause shown,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff's Application for Award of Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (ECF No. 18) is **GRANTED** in the amount of \$2,072.31. The award is made payable to Plaintiff's counsel, based on the assignment, is subject to offset for any debt she owes the United States, and is to be mailed to Plaintiff's attorney.

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2015.

/s/ John M. Bodenhausen
JOHN M. BODENHAUSEN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE